

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BONN 03913 041234Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W  
-----041236Z 021263 /10  
O 041224Z MAR 77 ZFF 4  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6148

S E C R E T BONN 03913

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, CASC, GW, UG, US  
SUBJECT: UGANDA: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO AMIN

REF: BONN 3832

FOLLOWING REPORT FROM FRG AMBASSADOR ELLERKMANN (FRG  
NUMBER 105) RECEIVED FROM FONOFF AT 1145Z MARCH 4.  
ELLERKMANN'S RECOMMENDATION (LAST PARA TEXT) IS THAT  
NO FURTHER MESSAGE BE SENT FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO  
AMIN.

BEGIN TEXT:

ORAL MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO PRESIDENT AMIN  
WHICH I DELIVERED TO ACTING MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
ON MARCH 3 WAS BROADCAST BY RADIO KAMPALA ON SAME DAY  
AND PRINTED IN "VOICE OF UGANDA" MARCH 4. AS TO THE  
4 DAYS DELAY IN DELIVERY, I AM ALMOST CONVINCED NOW  
THAT AMIN WAS NOT TOLD THAT I WAS TO DELIVER A  
MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER AND THAT SOMEWHERE IN  
THE COMMUNICATION TO PRESIDENT MY REQUEST TO SEE THE  
PRESIDENT WAS NOT PASSED ON FOR REASONS I DO NOT KNOW,  
POSSIBLY JUST BECAUSE OF INEFFICIENCY. AFTER VIOLENT  
SECRET

SECRET

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DEATH OF TWO MINISTERS 10 DAYS AGO,  
ALMOST ALL MINISTRIES ARE PARALYZED. OTHER AMBASSADORS  
WHO SAW AMIN WITH MESSAGES FROM THEIR HEADS OF  
STATE (ZAIRE, RWANDA, SUDAN, SAUDI ARABIA) EITHER  
ACCOMPANIED SPECIAL ENVOYS OR CONTACTED PRESIDENT'S  
OFFICE DIRECTLY, WHICH I DID NOT (NOT) WANT TO DO FOR  
VARIOUS REASONS.

THE SUSPICION HERE AND POSSIBLY IN AMERICA- AND EUROPE  
MAY BE THAT I, ON PURPOSE, WAS DELAYED FOR 4 DAYS TO  
DELIVER MESSAGE. I AM 100 PERCENT SURE THAT DELAY  
WAS NOT INTENDED BY AMIN AND, THEREFORE, NO NEW  
INSULT TO PRESIDENT CARTER MEANT.

ALSO THE PLACE OF DELIVERY (MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS)  
MIGHT GIVE CAUSE FOR SUSPICION. MESSAGES FROM HEADS  
OF STATE ARE USUALLY DELIVERED TO AMIN PERSONALLY  
AS IT WAS THE CASE WITH A MESSAGE DELIVERED FROM  
PRESIDENT FORD LAST YEAR ON THE ANGOLA CRISIS. IT IS  
INDEED A BIT PECULIAR THAT AFTER I DELIVERED THE  
MESSAGE TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (FOR RECORD  
PURPOSES), THIS MESSAGE WAS BROADCAST IMMEDIATELY.  
HOWEVER, AS I REPORTED BEFORE, THIS WAS DONE ON  
IMMEDIATE REACTION BY AMIN WHO REPLIED TO THE ACTING  
MINISTER OVER THE TELEPHONE, WHEN MESSAGE WAS READ TO  
HIM, "THAT IT WAS A GOOD MESSAGE AND SHOULD BE PUT ON  
THE RADIO."

THIS I COULD NOT PREVENT AND NOR COULD I ASK FOR  
INSTRUCTION BEFORE.

THEREFORE, I SUGGEST NOT TO ASSUME THAT LATE DELIVERY  
OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S MESSAGE AND PLACE OF DELIVERY  
WAS PLANNED FROM THE BEGINNING BY AMIN IN ORDER TO  
DOWNGRADE MESSAGE. EITHER IT WAS INEFFICIENCY IN THE  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OR PEOPLE IN THE MINISTRY  
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FOR (GOOD) REASONS, WHICH I ONLY CAN SPECULATE ON, ON  
PURPOSE DID NOT COMMUNICATE REQUEST TO PRESIDENT.

UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES AND SINCE SITUATION NOW IS  
CALM WITH REGARD TO AMERICANS IN THE COUNTRY, I  
SUGGEST NOW THAT NO FURTHER MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT  
CARTER TO PRESIDENT AMIN IS CONTEMPLATED. ELLERKMANN

END TEXT  
CASH

SECRET

NNN



## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, PROGRESS REPORTS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 04-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977BONN03913  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 1bf037be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 77 BONN 3832  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3212243  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** UGANDA: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO AMIN  
**TAGS:** PFOR, CASC, PPDC, GE, UG, US, (CARTER, JIMMY), (ELLERKMANN, RICHARD), (AMIN DADA, IDI)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009